PATENT

## N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

10/716,507

Confirmation No.:

Applicant

Gino Palumbo et al. Nov. 20, 2003

Filed

·

TC/A.U. Examiner

•

Docket No.

AUST3001DIV/JDB

Customer No.

23364

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA. 22202-3514

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.51(b), §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is submitted herewith.

Each of the documents listed on form PTO-1449 was cited in the Written Opinion dated November 10, 2003, in connection with the corresponding international application no. PCT/US01/44061. A copy of the aforementioned Written Opinion is also submitted herewith for the examiner's consideration.

It is to be noted that the accompanying form PTO-1449 only lists the Japanese abstract cited in the Written Opinion. The other reference cited in the Written Opinion (LeHockey et al.) is already of record in the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits received by Applicant in the above-identified application.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Respectfully submitted, BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

Date: February 27, 2004

Joseph DeBenedictis Registration No. 28,502

BACON & THOMAS 625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500
S:\Producer\jdb\Ridout & Maybee\Palumbo Aust 716507 Div of 702\Supplemental IDS.wpd

B/O Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant  U.S. Patent Documents  U.S. Patent Documents  Examiner Initial  Document Number Date  Date  Patentee/Applicant  Class  Subclass  Applicant  Class  Class  Comp  MAR 0 1	~ <u>~~</u>
B/O Form PTO-1449  U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant  Filing Date  U.S. Patent Documents  Atty. Docket Number AUST3001DIV/JDB  10/716,507  Applicant Palumbo et al.  Filing Date  U.S. Patent Documents	2004
U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant  Filing Date  Nov. 20, 2003  U.S. Patent Documents	2004
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant  Filing Date  Nov. 20. 2003  Group  MAR 0 1	2004
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant  Filing Date  Nov. 20. 2003  Group  MAR 0 1	2004
Nov. 20. 2003 MAR 0 1  U.S. Patent Documents	
U.S. Patent Documents	
U.S. Patent Documents	g Date if propriate
Examiner Initial Document Number Date Patentee/Applicant Class Subclass Applicant Class Subclass Applicant Class Subclass Applicant Class Subclass Applicant Applicant Class Subclass Subcla	To Date if propriate
Foreign Patent Documents	
	nslation
Document Number Publication Date Country/Agency Class Subclass Yes	No
	T
	1
	1
Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Place of Publication, Etc.)	
Abstract of JP 62177868 A, Aug. 4, 1987, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.	

Examiner Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.